



NOAA Teacher at Sea
Karolyn Braun
Onboard NOAA Ship KA'IMIMOANA
October 6 – 28, 2006

NOAA Teacher at Sea: Karolyn Braun
NOAA Ship KA'IMIMOANA
Mission: TAO Buoy Array Maintenance
Friday October 13, 2006

Science and Technology Log

Plan of the Day:

0200 CTD Profile

1000 Repair TAO Buoy Equator
(0N/155W)

CTD 4000m

AOML

TBA CTD stops made at .5S/155W
and 1S/155W

Well, last night I had conducted the 9:30 p.m. CTD profile solo. Everything was running smoothly, I remembered all the steps, and the CTD was in the water. The winchman was waiting for directions, and then we saw ERROR, ERROR, and the computers froze.... AAHHH! But I remained calm and called the Chief Scientist out of bed who called the Chief Electronic Technician (CET). By the time the CET arrived the XO (Executive Office) Robert, was in the lab as well. Come to find out, a fuse had blown. But the CET changed the fuse, and I completed the CTD profile. Before I knew it, it was 11 p.m.



KA'IMIMOANA crewmembers make repairs to a TAO buoy.

I awoke to the Bridge calling me for my 5 a.m. wake-up call to conduct the 1.5N/155W CTD profile. This cast went like clockwork. I was even ahead of schedule. I know it's silly, but I am really excited to sail over the equator. It's something I have always wanted to do. I have done it by plane many times, but it's a lot different sailing over it.

I was asked if I wanted to go on the TAO buoy repair. So of course I said YES! A chance to get off the ship and cruise in the RHIB boat to climb on a TAO buoy in the

middle of know where—who would pass that up? It was a beautiful day and while waiting for my time to assist with the repair, I saw sharks and tons of fish. Absolutely beautiful! Also while waiting, Jeff, a GVA, or general vessel assistant, taught me how to tie a bowling knot and a Tug bowling knot. Not as easy as it looks, but Jeff made it easy to learn.

After the repair, I had some lunch and got in a work out in time for the .5S/155W CTD cast. Everyday is such a blessing out here.